

THE STAYER

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO STOCK-FARMING.

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No. 27

CANYON GRAIN AND COAL CO.

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Fat Cattle and Hogs Going Up and Sheep Down.

Kansas City Stock Yards,
September 21, 1901.

Since the advent of the "Hon. Jno. Frost" has been reported from many localities and speculation as to the corn yield is about at an end there has been some lively figuring indulged in which has resulted in establishing a belief among buyers of feeding cattle that well finished heaves will, a few months hence, realize such returns that the feeding of high priced corn will have been done at a profit. The upward tendency of the fat cattle market with choice fat native and Western steers selling up to 6.30 and mixed lots of steers and heifers up to 6 on the local market has helped to encourage the idea. 950 to 1100 lb feeders have advanced 15¢ to 25¢ during the week. On the other hand, the light to medium weight stockers and feeders have been neglected and values on such offerings have declined as much as the heavy weights have advanced. The judgment of the heavy feeder buyer is not to be criticized but, at prevailing prices, of light cattle, the writer's opinion is that the man who has sufficient roughage to carry a bunch of light cattle through the winter and does not back in and get a few loads will wish he had done so a year hence.

Corn-fed cattle and heavy grass heaves were short of the demand during the past week and generally higher, as were dry lot cows and heifers, but light weight and medium fleshed grass steers were overlooked and grass cows, while opening strong enough, struck competition in medium weight steers and values settled slightly. The demand for both fed and grass cows, however, continues strong and active.

There were about 9000 cattle and 1700 calves received in the southern division during the week against 7500 cattle and 2000 calves for the previous week. Cows showed some fair qualities which sold up to 3.00 but the most of the sales were made at a range of 2.15 to 2.85. Fluctuations were very slight in both cow and steer values, the latter having sold largely at 2.70 to 3.70. Trading was done on an active basis and larger offerings would have been well received.

The interest in the American Royal cattle show and sale which is to take place October 21st to 26th continues and as the annual horse show will take place during the evenings of the same week a large number of visitors is expected. Elaborate plans for their entertainment are under way

and the double event will prove one of the greatest attractions of the series of fall festivities.

Packers declared that hogs bought at the high range of the past week were losing money but received no quarter at the hands of salesman and the top price of the season was reached on Wednesday when 7.12½ was paid for choice heavy hogs. Values weakened slightly on Thursday but were more than regained during the closing days of the week. Mixed and medium hogs closed at 6.75 to 7.10; lights at 6.25 to 6.95 and desirable pigs at 5.00 to 6.15.

Heavy receipts of sheep at all points gave packers the upper hand and mutton values were forced down 15 to 25 cents during the week. Western range sheep, principally from Utah, were in good supply and were well received at the reduced values. The best lambs at the close of the week were selling at 4.00 to 4.35; fair to good lots at 3.50 to 4.00 and feeder lambs at 3.00 to 3.25. Feeding wethers were taken in large lots at 2.50 to 3.00 and ewes at 1.50 to 2.25. Fat ewes closed at 2.50 to 2.85. The Kansas City Stock Yards Company has reduced the yardage on sheep and lambs to 12.50 per car load containing more than 250 head. This will make quite a saving to shippers of light sheep and lambs as the rate was formerly 5¢ per head regardless of size or number per car.

Receipts of live stock for the past week were:

Cattle.....	65,500
Hogs.....	45,000
Sheep.....	24,000

For the preceding week:

Cattle.....	47,700
Hogs.....	41,600
Sheep.....	24,800

Corresponding week last year:

Cattle.....	63,100
Hogs.....	42,400
Sheep.....	19,900

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For absolutely pure mixed paint sold under an iron-clad guarantee, go to M. T. JONES LUMBER COMPANY. They also carry Doors, Windows, Mouldings, Cypress Shingles, Lead, Oil, Varnishes, Brushes, Glass, Putty, Etc., Etc., and you may rest assured that their prices are all right. tf

Mr. S. H. Baker, of Wright, representing Stark Brothers nurseries, was in town last Saturday and made this office a pleasant call.

Locust, Black Locust or Yellow Locust.

Distribution.—Originally indigenous chiefly in the mountainous regions from Pennsylvania to Georgia, and possibly in Arkansas and eastern Indian Territory. Now widely naturalized through cultivation and other agencies throughout the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. Of recent years it is appearing in great abundance on the abandoned hillside farms of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky, and is also increasing in the southern portion of the plains region west of the Mississippi. It rarely forms extensive pure growths except in southern Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Eastern Kentucky where it is most abundant. Even in these localities it is usually associated with other deciduous trees, occurring in small scattered groves.

It has been more or less employed as an ornamental tree and considerably planted in the western states as an economic timber tree; its tendency to sprout from the root and its frequent failure through the attack of borers has brought it into disrepute in many sections, though these drawbacks are not general and where present, can to some extent be obviated by proper methods of management.

The range for planting is extensive, covering the region be-

triment near the surface, a habit which seems to explain its rapidity of growth and its adaptability to soils underlain by very tenacious hard subsoil. With favorable soil conditions the Locust succeeds as well on slopes and hillsides as on level land.

Use and Value.—The Locust has found extensive use as fence posts, ribs of vessels, tree-nails, in the manufacture of vehicles, and has been used for railroad ties and telegraph poles. Its great durability in contact with the soil, together with its toughness and elasticity, make it very valuable for use in the ground or where great strength is required. On account of its tendency to produce a short trunk and numerous branches it is not well adapted to telegraph poles and seldom produces one of good length, but if planted thickly and pruned while young, it will produce straight poles 18 or 20 feet long.

It is most commonly used for posts, for which purpose it is extensively grown. Its rapid growth while young and its ability to endure extremes of heat and drought make it valuable for this purpose. A post of 4 or 5 inches diameter will be produced in good soil in 7 or 8 years, and when used in the ground will last from 8 to 15 years. Unlike many timbers, the young wood is almost as

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CANYON CITY, TEXAS.

tween the Appalachian Mountains and Mississippi river and west of the Mississippi, the region of the 35th standard parallel as far west as the Rocky Mountains.

Growth.—The growth of this tree is very rapid, especially in rich, loose soil. It is not, however, a long-lived tree, rarely growing much after 50 years of age, and attaining its maximum timber value in 30 or 40 years. During its early growth it makes an average of 3 to 4 feet in height, and nearly ½ an inch in diameter. For the first 20 or 30 years the average accretion is much greater than at any other time. Once established, coppice growth is easily maintained, as it sprouts vigorously from the stump. It usually attains a height of 40 to 80 feet, with a diameter of 1 to 3 feet.

Soil.—The largest and most quickly matured specimens are generally found in deep, clay soil, in valleys and on bottom lands. It grows successfully on any of the poor sandy or gravelly soils, and is said to produce more durable timber here than on richer ones. In hard clay or wet soils, the Locust is short lived and of slow growth. The root system is shallow and reaches out to great distances, and the soils must be loose and penetrable, enabling the tree to appropriate its nu-

triment in the soil as the old, on account of the large proportion of heart-wood.

The Locust is of the greatest value south of the 37th standard parallel. In this region its growth is most rapid and it is seldom attacked by borers. Hence it has become a very popular tree in Oklahoma and Indian Territory. In these territories it can be grown for posts with a profit exceeding that to be obtained from agricultural crops. Many farmers and ranchmen are maintaining plantations to supply the posts and poles required in keeping up fences and sheds. The money saved in this way in some cases amounts to many dollars annually.

Propagation.—The Locust is propagated easily from root cuttings and from seed, which is the most common method. The seed retains its vitality for a number of years if kept in the pods or buried deep in the ground, in the latter case having been known to grow after 7 years; but seed out of the pod will not germinate well after two years. The pods ripen about July or August and can be sown immediately, when they will generally come up and make a considerable start the same season; if kept for spring planting it is advisable to keep the seed in moist sand in a cool place during the winter. Old

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seed and that kept dry for a season is best subjected to a soaking in warm water for a day or two immediately before planting.

The seed should be planted in well pulverized rich loam soil in early spring. If hand cultivation is to be given, the seed may be sown in drills 12 to 15 inches apart in a bed, but if horse cultivation is to be followed it should be sown in rows 3½ feet apart. The seed should not be covered more than ½ to 1 inch deep. A pound contains about 28,000 seed and is sufficient for a row 900 feet long. The seedlings will be large enough to set out in their permanent sites, the following spring or fall.

Management of Plantation.—The method of management adopted in a plantation of Locust largely determines its usefulness and value. Thick planting should be the rule in order to force the tree into straight, tall growth. In most cases 4 by 4, or 3 by 6 feet are suitable distances.

If the trees are planted in a solid block and surrounded by a few rows of other dense-shading trees there will be no difficulty from the tendency to sprout. Sprouts do not grow where the ground is shaded.

Every effort should be used to keep the trees in thrifty growth for the first 12 or 15 years. Borers seldom injure the trees that are growing rapidly but confine their attacks to those of less vigor. Before the trees cease rapid growth they should be cut for use. Sprouts from the stumps will at once renew the growth. By this method of cutting, a crop of posts can be produced every 10 or 12 years.

The best success usually results when the locust is grown mixed with some other heavy foliaged tree, as its own shade is not dense enough to keep out grass and weeds. As accompanying or nurse trees the Russian Mulberry, Hardy Catalpa and White Elm do well, as they cast heavy shade and do not grow rapidly enough to overtop the locust. The nurse tree need not occupy one third of the spaces.

You will wish you had if you don't see our new clothing before buying. Smith, Walker & Company. tf

Mrs. David Park and baby, Hazel, had a very narrow escape from death or serious injury last Saturday. Mrs. Park set baby Hazel in the buggy and started to get in herself when the horse became frightened and started to run, knocking Mrs. Park down and throwing the

baby violently to the ground. The baby was severely bruised and shaken up but no bones were broken. The nervous shock to Mrs. Park was very great but otherwise she was uninjured. The horse was caught near the stock pens. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Park congratulate them on their miraculous escape.

Lands! Cattle!!

I have for sale the finest ranches on the Plains, either small or large. Can sell with or without cattle, fine water, natural or artificial, with or without natural protection to stock in winter. Write me at Canyon, Randall county, Texas.

B. Frank Buie

Wright Pickups.

No news around Wright. Everything getting dry again. Health good.

Mr. Rye Phillips is improving very slowly.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Drake's infant was buried here yesterday.

Fifth Sunday meeting passed off real nicely. Several big guns were fired but the shots took no effect.

Mr. S. H. Baker is agent for Stark Bros. Nursery and is trying to get every farmer to plant an orchard.

Mr. Robert Skipworth has moved to the Plains from Clay county and will locate near Wright.

John Bradley starts for Yuma, Arizona in a few days. Texas seems to be on wheels, some one coming and going all the time. If we could have seasons at the right time this would be the finest country in Texas. We can raise everything for the table, have all kinds of fruit and good crops, the best of water, hogs and cattle. What more does a person want?

We need a railroad running north and south and hope to hear of one soon.

Cricket.

Miss Lillie Leonard is teaching Dr. Black's children out at the ranch.

We have just opened

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